

## **Childers Honored for Receiving U.S. Chamber Spirit of Enterprise Award, Supporting Local Businesses**

Thursday, July 8, 2010

Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Rep. Travis Childers (MS-01) was honored by local leaders in Belden and Corinth for receiving the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Spirit of Enterprise Award. Childers received the award in April for his pro-business record during the first session of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. Participating in the events were representatives from Three Rivers Planning and Development District (TRPDD), members of the Alliance board of directors, and local elected officials.

“I’m a small businessman myself, and I know how important keeping America’s businesses competitive on a global scale is to creating and saving jobs at home and rebuilding our economy,” said Congressman Childers. “I was honored to receive the U.S. Chamber’s Spirit of Enterprise Award, and am proud to receive support today from local leaders in North Mississippi. I will continue working hard to promote business growth in the First District and statewide.”

“I’m pleased, but not surprised, that our Congressman has received an award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for his solid support of private businesses, not only in North Mississippi, but throughout the nation,” said Randy Kelly, TRPDD Executive Director.

“Congressman Childers recognizes the significant impact that federal policy has on our businesses,” said Gary Chandler, President of The Alliance. “North Mississippians have long demonstrated strong resilience and Congressman Childers understands that our workforce will be on the front lines as we recover from this economic downturn. This award given by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce only reinforces Congressman Childers’ pro-business voting record and support for business and industry in our region.”

Eligibility for the Spirit of Enterprise Award is based on how Members of Congress vote on key business issues. These designated “key votes” are recorded floor votes on issues established

as priorities on which the Chamber communicates its position prior to the vote. Those members of Congress who support the Chamber's position on at least 70% of those votes receive the award.

Childers has a proven record of supporting small business. He recently voted for the *American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act*, which includes a provision to extend lending for Mississippi's small businesses and increase government guarantees.

Last month, Childers joined his House colleagues in passing the bipartisan *Small Business Jobs and Credit Act*, which will leverage \$300 billion in lending for small businesses and create hundreds of thousands of jobs. The bill expands much-needed lending to small businesses and offers tax incentives to help America's small businesses grow. It will give small businesses the resources they need to put North Mississippians back to work and jumpstart economic development.

The bill also offers tax incentives to spur immediate investments in America's small businesses. These reforms will increase tax deductions to help entrepreneurs recover more start-up expenses, and will lower the capital gains taxes on small business investments. The very first piece of legislation Childers introduced in Congress was the *Invest in Small Business Act* to encourage investment by cutting the capital gains tax. A similar provision was included in the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*.

*A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (MS-01) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit [www.childers.house.gov](http://www.childers.house.gov)*

